(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to hand over the centrally sponsored projects to the concerned States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and in what way it would benefit the States;

(c) the details of projects identified to be transferred to States; and

(d) the financial implications thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGARMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d) A proposal for transferring some of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes to the States' Plan alongwith the outlays for such Schemes is being considered by the Government. A formal decision in this regard is expected to be taken in the next meeting of the National Development Council scheduled to be held on 23rd and 24th December, 1991. The details regarding Centrally Sponsored Schemes proposed to be transferred and financial implications thereof will be known only after the N.D.C. has considered the matter.

Widening gap between per capita income of rural and urban people

3281. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita income of rural and urban people during the Seventh Five Year Plan, separately;

(b) whether it is a fact that the gap between rural and urban income is widening; and

(c) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to narrow the gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGARMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) On the basis of detailed data available from population census, the Central Statistical Organisation estimates the average per capita income for rural and urban areas. The available estimates are as under:

Per Capita Income (Rs.)

Year	Rural	Urban
1970-71	499	1201
1980-81	1242	2887

(b) No, Sir. Rural-Urban per capita income gap in terms of the ratio between the two, has narrowed down during 1971-1981.

(c) Development efforts are being made by the Government to reduce the per capita income gap between rural and urban areas. These include development of villages and small scale industries, establishment of industries and infrastructure in rural areas, development of Agriculture.

A number of programmes and schemes are being implemented with the sole purpose of raising the productivity of the land and enhancing the real income of farmers. Special programmes for alleviation of poverty are also being implemented. These include Integrate Rural Development Programme and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and schemes for the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduler Tribes.